ICAST

Intelligent Computational Assistive Science and Technology: A Canadian Network
Birth...

- Seeds planted in July 2006 at a UBC meeting set up by Alan Mackworth
- first meeting Dec. 6, 2006, hosted by York U., funded by Precarn and by York U.
- Network launch approved unanimously - first chair elected J. Tsotsos
- This is the first such network dedicated to a long-term vision for science and technology to aid persons with disabilities and impairments of all types.
Four Major Themes

The ICAST network is a network of overlapping research and development clusters:

– Mobility
– Smart Homes
– Communication
– For the Elderly
Goals

• grow the size of the national network specific to this mandate;
• facilitate networking among researchers, companies, advocacy groups and clinicians;
• help coordinate research to get better economic benefit from dollars spent;
• advocate for ways to engage industry in a more effective way;
• provide a mechanism and encouragement for user/advocacy groups to provide greater input to research priorities.
Founding Organizations

- **Universities** - University of British Columbia
  University of New Brunswick
  University of Ottawa
  University of Sherbrooke
  University of Toronto
  University of Victoria
  University of Waterloo
  York University

- **Companies** - Applied AI
  CRIM
  HTX (The Health Technology Exchange)
  Precarn Inc.
  Quanser
  Research In Motion
  Systèmes Lifelink

- **Hospitals, Caregivers, Clinical Units** -
  The Neil Squire Society
  The Toronto Rehabilitation Institute
Steering Committee

• Gary Birch  Neil Squire Society, Vancouver
• Christian Cloutier  Systèmes Lifelink, Quebec City
• Pierre Dumouchel  CRIM, Montreal
• Paul Gilbert  Quanser, Markham
• Sid Fels  University of British Columbia
• Ed Lemaire  University of Ottawa
• Nigel Livingston  University of Victoria
• Francois Michaud  University of Sherbrooke
• Alex Mihailidis  University of Toronto
• Mickey Milner  HTX, Markham
• Hélène Pigot  University of Sherbrooke
Admin Structure

• still under construction
Web Presence

• ICAST-Canada.org
• 10 labs signed up
• Live by September
Current Status

• Financial support from York U for one year of basic administrative expenses
• Logistical support from Precarn Inc.
• at least one joint project in review for funding at CIHR
The Future...

- Fall meeting of partners with the goal of identifying emerging teams wishing to go forward with concrete project and funding proposals
- advisory board to be populated